



June 23, 2008

Ravalli County Commissioners
215 South 4th Street Suite A
Hamilton, MT 59840

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Ravalli County Commissioners

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Dear Commissioners:

I am writing to thank you for your continued support of the MSU Extension Office in Ravalli County. Your support of MSU Extension in Ravalli County is paying dividends in the community.

Western Region

At MSU Extension our first concern with our county-based faculty is that they meet the local needs in an effective manner. To that end we are continually utilizing various strategies to evaluate our agents effectiveness. We pay special attention to our newer faculty like Katelyn Andersen. We utilize peer mentors, various constituent, stakeholders and peer evaluations, agent reporting, general observations and formal and informal input to assess the progress of newer faculty.

Based on the input we have received there are several successes in Katelyn's early career in Ravalli County. Here are few highlights of her efforts:

1. Developing productive relationships with school systems, teachers, continuing education leaders and the media
2. Providing leadership to the 4-H Volunteer system, helping them develop a structure and strategic goals to benefit the youth of Ravalli County.
3. Recognized by local Soroptimist Club as a valued community asset. Also selected to provide a workshop at the district meeting of Soroptimists in Helena.
4. Has developed rapport with youth leaders in the Ravalli County 4-H program.
5. Is playing a key role as the Extension Office in Ravalli County goes through the challenging transition as Rob Johnson retires.

The people in Ravalli County are saying positive things about Katelyn. Here are just a few highlights.

"She has a great ability to emanate friendliness and makes people comfortable in her presence", Ravalli County youth

"She currently holds A+ in my book", 4-H leader

"Katelyn selected me... to judge the local 4-H cook-off. It was a very hard job because all the kids performed so well. I learned a new respect for the challenges of the [4-H] projects."

Montana State University,
U.S. Department of
Agriculture and Montana
Counties Cooperating.
MSU Extension is an equal
opportunity/affirmative
action provider of
educational outreach.

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Mountains & Minds

"Please continue these programs."

"Katelyn's information about wills, power of attorney, etc has helped me in my professional life."

"Katelyn has brought a 'breath of fresh air' to Ravalli County Extension"

Katelyn has a great attitude and is both cheerful and encouraging to leaders and members."

Please feel free to provide me with input regarding Katelyn at any time. It is my intention to schedule a time to meet with you this coming winter to review the MSU Extension Program in Ravalli County and discuss how MSU Extension might better serve you from the regional and state level.

I look forward to seeing you in the days to come.

Sincerely,



Steve Siegelin
MSU Extension
Western Region Department Head